(b) and (c) There is a proposal to include the stretch between Dobhi, Gaya, Jahanabad, Patna of NH-83 in NHDP-III.

Six laning of NH 5

383. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to make NH 5 a six lane highway within the next two years;

(b) if so, whether any traffic study regarding the need for a six lane highway has been done;

(c) whether cost-benefit studies would be done before embarking on huge investments; and

(d) the steps proposed to avoid six laning where there is little traffic?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) to (d) Government has approved six laning of Golden Quadrilateral (which includes NH-5) on those stretches where traffic is more than a thereshold level.

Foreign officers to man ships

384. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the shipping industry has appealed to Government to allow it to hire foreign officers to man their ships;

(b) the details of such representations pending with DG, Shipping;

(c) the manner in which Government would help the shipping sector find all categories of crew; and

(d) the details of demands in this regard and the reaction of Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (d) The Indian National Shipowners Association (INSA) has requested the Directorate General of Shipping to allow foreign